



Dr. Calvin Ball

# THE CALVIN BALL BULLETIN

**Legislative Edition  
May 2017**

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Lend your voice to our Legislative process! This newsletter highlights bills currently under consideration by the Howard County Council and legislation under consideration that may impact Howard County citizens while the Maryland General Assembly is in session.

To promote an engaged citizenry, I encourage you to review this information. The County Council welcomes you to submit testimony on legislation we are considering. To do so, please email us at [councilmail@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:councilmail@howardcountymd.gov). You may join us during our one of our upcoming public hearings, generally held the 3rd Monday of each month. To sign-up in advance to testify, click [here](#). The Howard County Delegation also hosts public hearings and welcomes your testimony. To testify, email [hoc1@mlis.state.md.us](mailto:hoc1@mlis.state.md.us).

I hope you find this newsletter informative and use this opportunity to become an integral part of our legislative process.



Legislative  
Update



## Howard County Council Legislation

Unless otherwise noted, the following legislation is introduced by the Chairperson at the request of the County Executive.

## PREFILED LEGISLATION

All prefiled legislation scheduled to be introduced at this month's legislative session can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

## APPOINTMENTS

[CR53-2017](#)

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of William A. Moss to the Adult Public Guardianship Review Board.

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## GENERAL

### SAO4-FY2017

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT transferring \$571,494 from the General Fund, Contingency Reserve to the Department of Public Works for unanticipated expenses related to snow removal.

### CR54-2017

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the Board of Education**

A RESOLUTION approving certain transfers between major categories of the Howard County Board of Education Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2017; transferring a total of \$14,060,000 to the Fixed Charges category.

### CB33-2017

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT amending an uncodified section in Council Bill No. 9-2014 in order to extend the Renovated, Upgraded, or Rehabilitated Property Adjacent to Route 1 tax credit; providing that applications for the credit received by a certain date will be eligible to receive the credit the full four years of the credit; and declaring this Act to be an emergency measure.

### CB34-2017

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT extending the life of the tax credit for certain high performance buildings until June 30, 2023; amending certain definitions; requiring certain reviews prior to the expiration of the credit; and declaring this Act to be an emergency measure.

### CB35-2017

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving a multi-year Amendment to Full Service Office Building Lease Agreements between Howard County, Maryland and PR FPR North Ridge, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, for the lease of Suite 204 and Suite 209, both in the building located at 2850 North Ridge Road, Ellicott City; authorizing the County Executive to make changes to the Amendment, under certain conditions; authorizing the County Executive to execute the Amendment; and generally relating to the Amendment.

### CB36-2017

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving a Fourth Renewal and Amendment of Lease between Howard County, Maryland and the Anne Arundel County Tipton Airport Authority for the lease of certain space used by the County to store the County's helicopter located at 7515 General Aviation Drive, Fort Meade; authorizing the County Executive to make changes to the Amendment, under certain conditions; authorizing the County Executive to execute the Amendment; and generally relating to the Amendment.

## BUDGET LEGISLATION

### CB37-2017

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT amending the Pay Plan for Howard County; providing pay scales for employees; amending certain pay scales; amending certain position titles; making certain technical corrections; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to the Pay Plan for Howard County.

### CB38-2017

### CB47-2017

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT to authorize and empower Howard County, Maryland, to enter into installment purchase agreements to acquire development rights in agricultural lands located within the County (Project No. G 0163), for an aggregate purchase price of not more than \$29,801,632, plus interest thereon; providing that the County's obligation to pay the purchase price under and interest on such agreements shall



**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT amending the Classification Plan for Howard County; amending certain class descriptions; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to amendments to the Howard County Classification Plan.

**CB39-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT amending certain approvals related to starting rates of pay for new employees; amending and adding the titles of certain positions in the Office of the County Executive and the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer; correcting a position title; making certain technical corrections; and generally relating to human resources provisions in the Howard County Code.

**CB40-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT adopting the current expense budget and the capital budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018, to be known as the Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of Howard County, Fiscal Year 2018.

**CB41-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT for the purpose of authorizing and empowering Howard County, Maryland to borrow money in the principal amount of up to \$220,683,871 on its full faith and credit, and issue and sell its bonds or other obligations therefor, to be used to pay costs of certain County capital projects (including bridge projects, general county projects, storm drainage projects, school system projects, fire and rescue projects, road construction projects, roadside and sidewalk projects, library projects, community college projects, parks and recreation projects, police projects and traffic improvements projects), which are specified and described in the County's 2018 Capital Budget (including, without limitation, borrowings for certain capital projects previously authorized in other calendar years, which such authorization has lapsed or will lapse), and to pay costs of issuance of such bonds or other obligations; authorizing the County to issue bond anticipation notes or to enter into installment purchase agreements for payment of portions of such costs; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with other available funds, to pay the debt service on such obligations; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

**CB42-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT for the purpose of authorizing and

be a general obligation of the County made upon its full faith and credit; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with the portion of the transfer tax imposed on transfers of real property in Howard County which is dedicated to agricultural land preservation and other available funds, to provide for the payment of the purchase price under and interest on any agreements so entered into; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

**CB48-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

An ORDINANCE pursuant to Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, approving the execution by Howard County, Maryland of one or more capital equipment lease agreements in the aggregate maximum amount of \$3,000,000 to finance the acquisition of equipment and any related costs.

**CR55-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving the Capital Program for Howard County for Fiscal Years 2019 through 2023 and the Extended Capital Program for Fiscal Years 2024 through 2027.

**CR56-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving the Fiscal Year 2018 operating budget for the Howard Community College and indicating appropriations for major functional categories.

**CR57-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving the Fiscal Year 2018 budget for the Howard County Library System and indicating appropriations for object classes.

**CR58-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION setting forth the Fiscal Year 2018 Operating Budget for the Howard County Board of Education.

**CR59-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving the Fiscal Year 2018 budget for the Howard County Health Department and indicating appropriations for object classes.

**CR60-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving schedules for charges pertaining to the Metropolitan District,



empowering Howard County, Maryland to borrow money in the principal amount of up to \$125,072,412 on its full faith and credit, and issue and sell its bonds or other obligations therefor, to be used to pay costs of certain County water and sewer capital projects which are specified and described in the County's 2018 Capital Budget (including, without limitation, borrowings for certain water and sewer capital projects previously authorized in prior calendar years which such authorization has lapsed or will lapse), and to pay costs of issuance of such bonds or other obligations; authorizing the County to issue bond anticipation notes or to enter into installment purchase agreements for payment of portions of such costs; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with benefit assessments, ad valorem taxes levied upon the assessable property in the Metropolitan District and other available funds, to pay the debt service on such obligations; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

#### **CB43-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT extending the life of the tax credit for certain high performance buildings until June 30, 2023; amending certain definitions; requiring certain reviews prior to the expiration of the credit; and declaring this Act to be an emergency measure.

#### **CB44-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT for the purpose of authorizing and empowering Howard County, Maryland to borrow money in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$2,000,000, on its full faith and credit, and issue and sell its bonds or other obligations therefor, to be used to pay costs of certain County education capital projects as more particularly described in the County's 2018 Capital Budget, and to pay costs of issuance of such bonds or other obligations; authorizing and empowering the County to issue bond anticipation notes or to enter into installment purchase agreements for payment of portions of such costs; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with school facility surcharges and other available funds, to pay the debt service on such obligations; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

#### **CB45-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT for the purpose of authorizing and empowering Howard County, Maryland to borrow money in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$4,625,304, on its full faith and credit, and issue and sell its bonds or other

to water and sewer service, and to shared sewage disposal facilities.

#### **CR61-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving schedules of fees for the functions regulated by the Department of Public Works.

#### **CR62-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving schedules of fees, fines and charges for functions regulated by the Howard County Department of Inspections, Licenses and Permits.

#### **CR63-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving schedules of fees and charges for functions regulated or administered by the Department of Planning and Zoning.

#### **CR64-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving schedules of fees and rates for functions regulated and administered by the Department of Police.

#### **CR65-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION approving fee and rate schedules for:

- (1) Applying for approval of an industrial development revenue bond or MIDFA bond or loan;
- (2) Solicitor and Peddler Identification Card;
- (3) Weekend Prisoners - Room and board;
- (4) Prisoner - Health care provider fee;
- (5) Participation in work release program;
- (6) Participation in home detention program;
- (7) Marriage license fee charge for funding of domestic violence programs;
- (8) Annual registration of trespass towing companies and maximum rates to be charged by trespass towing services;
- (9) Fee and specifications for transcripts of administrative proceedings; and
- (10) Reproduction of public records.

#### **CR66-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION levying a tax on certain admissions and amusements, establishing classes of admissions and amusements, setting tax rates on different classes, and providing for certain exemptions from the tax.

#### **CR67-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION establishing a recordation tax



obligations therefor, to be used to pay costs of certain County environmental services fund projects as more particularly described in the County's 2018 Capital Budget, and to pay costs of issuance of such bonds or other obligations; authorizing and empowering the County to issue bond anticipation notes or to enter into installment purchase agreements for payment of portions of such costs; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with amounts held in the Environmental Services Special Revenue Fund and other available funds, to pay the debt service on such obligations; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

#### **CB46-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT for the purpose of authorizing and empowering Howard County, Maryland to borrow money in the aggregate principal amount of up to \$8,800,000 on its full faith and credit, and issue and sell its bonds or other obligations therefor, to be used to pay costs of certain County watershed protection and restoration projects as more particularly described in the County's 2018 Capital Budget, and to pay costs of issuance of such bonds or other obligations; authorizing and empowering the County to issue bond anticipation notes or to enter into installment purchase agreements for payment of portions of such costs; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with amounts held in the Watershed Protection and Restoration Fund and other available funds, to pay the debt service on such obligations; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

rate on instruments of writing that are recorded with the Clerk of the Circuit Court.

#### **CR68-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION adopting the schedule of rates for the Building Excise Tax.

#### **CR69-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION levying Fire and Rescue tax rates beginning July 1, 2017

#### **CR70-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION levying a property tax for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018; setting the tax rates for property; and providing for the collection of the property tax.

#### **CR71-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION setting the fee-in-lieu rate for moderate income housing.

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## **CURRENT LEGISLATION**

Legislation below is currently pending and under consideration by the County Council. Action will be taken at the next Legislative Session. More details can be found [online](#).

## **APPOINTMENTS**

#### **CR36-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Shivani K. Aghera to the Human Rights

#### **CR44-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Julia Mattis to the Commission on Aging.



Commission.

**CR37-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Hector J. Garcia, Jr. to the Human Rights Commission.

**CR38-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Savannah A. Kaiss to the Agricultural Land Preservation Board.

**CR39-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Tina Kwon Melton to the Planning Board.

**CR40-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sue Song to the Commission on Aging.

**CR41-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Jennifer H. Asher to the Commission on Aging.

**CR42-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Peter J. Brunner to the Commission on Aging.

**CR43-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Karen Greenfield to the Board of Electrical Examiners.

**CR45-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Marshall McLeod to the Advisory Board on Consumer Protection.

**CR46-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of M. Eletta Morse to the Commission on Aging.

**CR47-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Rev. Rodney T. Morton to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission.

**CR48-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Jason Quan to the Public Transportation Board.

**CR49-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Tracy Snyder to the Board of Electrical Examiners.

**CR50-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Cory J. Summerson to the Public Works Board.

**CR51-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Daniel E. Tracy, Jr. to the Recreation and Parks Board.

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## **GENERAL**

**CB25-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT making a technical amendment to PlanHoward 2030, the general plan for Howard County, correcting a chart to correspond to an amendment that was passed to PlanHoward2030; and generally relating to planning, zoning and land use in Howard County.

**CB26-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

**CB28-2017 (ZRA 174)**

**Introduced by: Mary Kay Sigaty**

AN ACT amending the Howard County Zoning Regulations to define Cottage Food Business and allow Cottage Food Business as a Home Occupation; and generally relating to Cottage Food Businesses.

**CB29-2017 (ZRA 176)**

**Introduced by: Greg Fox and Mary Kay Sigaty**

AN ACT amending the Howard County Zoning Regulations to remove the Business Rural Crossroads (BRX) zoning district; and



AN ACT requiring a permit for the installation of certain wireless facilities on public street lights; defining certain terms; amending certain definitions; requiring certain information in support of an application for a permit; requiring certain agreements; requiring that certain agreements include fair compensation; providing for the review of applications; authorizing certain fees; and generally related to public rights-of-way in Howard County.

#### **CB27-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT approving, in accordance with Section 612 of the Howard County Charter, a Seventh Amendment to Agreement of Lease for the portion of the building consisting of approximately 5,728 square feet located at 3300 North Ridge Road, Suite 240, Ellicott City, Howard County, Maryland by and between Executive Center LLC, a Maryland limited liability company; authorizing the County Executive to make changes to the Amendment, under certain conditions; authorizing the County Executive to execute the Amendment; and generally relating to the Amendment.

generally relating to BRX district.

#### **CR35-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the Meadowlark, LLC**

A RESOLUTION to close a portion of Forest Avenue, as shown in Exhibits A and B, in accordance with Section 18.204 of the Howard County Code.

#### **CR52-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION adopting Howard County's Annual Action Plan for housing and community services to qualify for the receipt of federal Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnership Program fund.

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## **TABLED**

#### **CB20-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT amending the qualifications of the Administrator of the Office of Transportation; amending the duties of the Office of Transportation; amending the general powers and duties of members of the Public Transportation Board; adding the Office of Transportation to agencies serving on the Subdivision Review Committee; and generally relating to the Office of Transportation. (tabled 4/3/17)

#### **CR1-2017**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of Windsor Forest Fox Chasing HOA, Inc. and Gaither Hunt Homeowners Association, Inc.**

A RESOLUTION to close all of Winter Thicket Road, as shown in Exhibits A and B, in accordance with Section 18.204 of the Howard County Code. (tabled 2/6/17)

#### **CR104-2016**

##### **Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION pursuant to Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code, authorizing the County Executive's sale of certain real property known as the "Flier Building" owned by Howard County, Maryland, containing approximately 2.159 acres, and located at 10750 Little Patuxent Parkway, Maryland; waiving the advertising and bidding requirements of Section 4.201 of the Howard County Code; and providing that the County Executive is not bound to sell the property if he finds that it may have a further public use. (tabled 7/29/16)

#### **CR179-2016**

##### **Introduced by: Calvin Ball and Jennifer Terrasa**

A RESOLUTION calling on the Maryland State Department of Education to contract for a performance audit of the Howard County Public School System and specifying the issues requested to be studied. (tabled 12/05/16)

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## **PRIOR LEGISLATION**

All legislation voted on during the previous month can be found online using the legislative search tool by clicking



[here.](#)

**CR29-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Erica B. Byrne to the Howard County Local Children's Board.

*Status: PASSED*

**CR21-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Jean Xu to the Public Ethics Commission.

*Status: PASSED*

**CR30-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Brian M. Dillard to the Public Transportation Board.

*Status: PASSED*

**CR31-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Ayesha Bajwa Holmes to the Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency.

*Status: PASSED*

**CR32-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Caroline Harper to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission.

*Status: PASSED*

**CR33-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION confirming the reappointment of Jonah Hornum to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission.

*Status: PASSED*

**CR34-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

A RESOLUTION endorsing the provision of financing by the State Department of Commerce for two economic development projects in Howard County and certifying that the projects are consistent with the County's plan for economic development.

*Status: PASSED (as amended)*

**SAO3-FY2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT transferring \$600,000 from the Grants Fund, Contingency Reserve to the Department of Public Works for a grant to assist in improving enhanced nutrient removal performance levels.

**CB19-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT approving and providing for a multi-year Installment Purchase Agreement by Howard County, Maryland to acquire development rights in approximately 20.56 acres of agricultural land located at 1401 Woodbine Road, Woodbine, Howard County, Maryland, from Sharon Sachs or any other owner thereof for a maximum purchase price of \$536,500.00 or, if less, not more than \$26,093.60 per acre or portion thereof, rounded to the next highest \$100, plus interest on the deferred portion of such purchase price; providing that the County's obligation to pay such purchase price and interest on the deferred portion of such purchase price shall be a full faith and credit general obligation of the County; providing for the levying of taxes for such payments; authorizing the County Executive to modify such Agreement; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.

*Status: PASSED*

**CB21-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive and Cosponsored by Jon Weinstein**

AN ACT repealing certain County licenses and inspections related to massage; defining certain terms; allowing certain entry into massage establishments; authorizing the right to request certain authorization; providing for certain penalties; and generally relating to massage establishments in Howard County.

*Status: PASSED*

**CB22-2017 (ZRA 175)**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT exempting farms in the Rural Conservation Zoning District and farms 20 acres or larger in the Rural Residential Zoning District from Animal Shelter and Riding Academy and Stable setback requirements from dwellings on future new residential lots; and generally relating to the Howard County Zoning Regulations.

*Status: PASSED (as amended)*

**CB23-2017**

**Introduced by: Mary Kay Sigaty and Cosponsored by Calvin Ball and Jon Weinstein**

AN ACT amending the Howard County Code to clarify that parcels may be eligible for the County's Agricultural Land Preservation Program notwithstanding the effect of the Growth Tier designation of the parcel on the County's General Plan; and generally relating to the Howard County Agricultural Land Preservation Program.

*Status: PASSED*



Status: PASSED

#### **TAO3-FY2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT transferring a total of \$3,445,000 to Capital Project C0309, Land Acquisition Contingency Reserve, from various capital projects in the Fiscal Year 2017 Capital Budget including C0351, Harriet Tubman Remediation, C0352, Site Acquisition for School Sites, and F5973, Logistics Facility.  
Status: PASSED (as amended)

#### **CB24-2017**

**Introduced by: Jon Weinstein and Greg Fox**

AN ACT requiring that any on-site sewage disposal system installed within a major subdivision in the Rural Conservation (RC) zoning district utilize Best Available Technology for Nitrogen removal; and generally relating to on-site sewage disposal systems.

Status: WITHDRAWN

#### **CB18-2017**

**Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive**

AN ACT for the purpose of authorizing and empowering Howard County, Maryland to borrow money an additional aggregate principal amount of up to \$945,000 on its full faith and credit, and issue and sell its bonds therefor, to be used to pay costs of various capital projects, more particularly described in the County's 2017 Capital Budget, and to pay costs of issuance of such bonds; authorizing the County to issue bond anticipation notes or to enter into installment purchase agreements for payment of portions of such costs; and to levy taxes upon the assessable property within the County sufficient, together with other available funds, to pay the debt service on such obligations; and providing for and determining various matters in connection therewith.  
Status: PASSED (as amended)

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### **The Process**

The County Council is responsible for adopting the laws of the County. The legislative process generally follows a monthly cycle:

- 1st Monday - New legislation is introduced; legislation from prior month is given final consideration
- 3rd Monday - Public hearing on legislation introduced that month
- 4th Monday - Legislative work session, if needed

Council bills must be signed or vetoed by the County Executive within 10 days of the Council's presentation of passed legislation.

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### **Upcoming Meetings**

Unless otherwise noted, the County Council will hold its meetings in the Banneker Room of the George Howard Building, 3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD. The next meetings are as follows:

- **Monday, April 24, 2017** at 4:30 p.m.; Work Session - Legislative (C. Vernon Gray Room)
- **Monday, April 24, 2017** at 7:00 p.m.; Public Hearing - Capital and Operating Budget
- **Friday, April 28, 2017** at 8:30 a.m.; Work Session - Capital and Operating Education Budget (C. Vernon Gray Room)
- **Monday, May 1, 2017** at 7:00 p.m.; Constant Yield Hearing followed by Legislative Session - Introduction of Budget Bills



- **Tuesday, May 2, 2017** at 7:00 p.m.; Public Hearing - Operating Budget (All departments except Board of Education, Howard Community College, and Libraries)
- **Thursday, May 4, 2017** at 8:30 a.m.; Work Session - Operating Budget (including revenue, fees, and funds specific to each department)

Please note these dates are subject to change. To access the most up-to-date calendar of meetings in its entirety, click [here](#).

Can't attend a meeting but still want to stay involved? You can stream the Council's sessions [online](#) and click on the meeting you would like to watch. The Council's sessions are also streamed in real time on this website.



### Howard County Delegation Sponsored Legislation

Legislation in this section are bills sponsored by the Howard County Delegation while the Maryland General Assembly was in session. For details on legislation passed during the 2017 session, go [online](#) or contact **Erinn Camp Mansour** at **410-841-3360** or email **hoc1@mlis.state.md.us**.

### 2017 Bond Bill Funding

During the 2017 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly evaluated 205 bond bill requests that totaled nearly \$53.9 million. The Senate and the House each funded \$7.5 million in legislative projects; individual bond bills were not acted upon by the legislature. Instead, the General Assembly amended the State Capital Budget Bill (HB 151) to specifically list the projects selected for funding. The chart below indicates the status of those bond bills funded in 2017. The "Total" column on the right indicates the total amount of funding approved for each project, including projects funded in HB 151 in the Miscellaneous Grant Programs section. Howard County projects are listed below. To view the chart in its entirety click [here](#).

Project Title	House Initiative	Senate Initiative	Other	Total Funding	Match Requirements
<a href="#">Carrollton Hall Restoration</a>		\$125,000		\$125,000	Hard
<a href="#">Chrysalis Pavillion in Merriweather Park at Symphony Woods</a>	\$150,000			\$150,000	Soft (1,3)
<a href="#">Harriet Tubman Community Center and Museum</a>	\$300,000			\$300,000	Soft (1)
<a href="#">MannegART Museum and Maryland Fashion Institute</a>	\$50,000			\$50,000	Soft (all)
<a href="#">Tau Pi Mentoring Program</a>	\$25,000			\$25,000	Soft (2)
<a href="#">The Arc of Howard County HVAC System Replacement</a>		\$250,000		\$250,000	Hard

Match Key: 1 = Real Property; 2 = In Kind Contribution; 3 = Prior Expended Funds; U = Unequal



**HB0572 - Howard County - Property Tax Credit for Commercial Real Property - Flood Damage** Ho. Co. 9-17

**By: Chair, Howard County Delegation**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Howard County to grant, by law, a tax credit against the county property tax imposed on commercial real property that the governing body determines has suffered certain damage caused by flood conditions; authorizing the governing body of Howard County to specify the amount and duration of the credit and to provide for the implementation and administration of the credit; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to a property tax credit in Howard County for certain flood damage to commercial real property.

*Update: Delegation passed with emergency amendment; In the House - Approved by the Governor - Chapter 137*

**HB0566 - Howard County - Property Tax - Exemption for Personal Property of Business Located in Historic District** Ho. Co. 10-17

**By: Chair, Howard County Delegation**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Howard County to exempt certain personal property from the Howard County property tax under certain circumstances; defining a certain term; providing for the application of this Act; and generally relating to a certain property tax exemption in Howard County.

*Status: Delegation passed with amendments;*

*Approved by the Governor - Chapter 131*

**HB1604 - Howard County - Transfer Tax Exemption and Rate Reduction - Law Enforcement Officers** Ho. Co. 17-17

**By: Senator Bates**

FOR the purpose of exempting from the Howard County transfer tax the sale of residential real property to certain law enforcement officers under certain circumstances; establishing the maximum Howard County transfer tax rate applied to the sale of residential real property to certain law enforcement officers under certain circumstances; establishing certain qualifications for the transfer tax exemption or rate reduction; providing for the recapture of the transfer tax exempted or reduced under this Act under certain circumstances; defining a certain term; and generally relating to the transfer tax in Howard County.

*Status: Approved by the Governor - Chapter 148*

**HB1516 / SB0750 - Public Health - Health Record and Payment Clearing House - Pilot Program**

**By: Delegate Hill**

Requiring the Maryland Health Care Commission, on or before December 31, 2017, to research and evaluate public and

**HB0242 - Vehicle Laws - Use of Handheld Telephone While Driving - Penalty**

**By: Delegate Turner**

Providing for a maximum fine of \$500 for a violation of specified prohibitions against using a handheld telephone while driving a motor vehicle; etc.

*Update: In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Judicial Proceedings*

**HB0741 - Election Law - Automatic Voter Registration**

**By: Delegate Turner**

Redesignating electronic voter registration agencies as automatic voter registration agencies; requiring automatic voter registration agencies to inform an applicant completing an applicable transaction that the applicant shall be registered to vote or shall have a voter registration record updated unless the applicant declines to register to vote or update a voter registration record or is determined not to be eligible to register to vote; etc.

*Update: In the House - Hearing 3/02 at 1:00 p.m.*

**HB1083 / SB1081 - Health - Family Planning Services - Continuity of Care**

**By: Delegate Pendergrass**

Establishing the Family Planning Program in the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to ensure the continuity of family planning services in the State; requiring the Program to provide family planning services to specified individuals through specified providers; authorizing the Program to adopt specified regulations; requiring the Maryland Medical Assistance Program to ensure access to and continuity of services provided by specified family planning providers in a specified manner; etc.

*Update: Enacted under Article II, Section 17(b) of the Maryland Constitution - Chapter 28; In the Senate - Returned Passed*

**HB0598 - Counties and Municipal Corporations - "Sanctuary Laws" for Illegal Aliens - Prohibition**

**By: Delegate Miller, W.**

Requiring local governments to fully comply with and support federal immigration law; prohibiting local governments from restricting specified individuals from requesting, obtaining, sending, receiving, or maintaining specified immigration information; requiring local governments to implement specified requirements and obligations in a manner that is consistent with federal immigration law and protects civil rights; etc.

*Update: In the House - Unfavorable Report by Judiciary*

**HB0011 - Vehicle Laws - Causing Diesel Emissions to Discharge Onto Another - Prohibition**

**By: Delegate Lam**

Prohibiting a person from causing a diesel-



private health record and payment clearing houses, develop standards, determine specified information, and report its recommendations and funding requests to the General Assembly; requiring the Commission to establish for use in a pilot program a health record and payment clearing house on or before January 1, 2019; specifying the capabilities of the proposed health records and payment clearing house; etc.

*Update: In the House - Unfavorable Report by Health and Government Operations; Withdrawn; In the Senate - Hearing 3/15 at 1:00 p.m.*

**HB1522 - Needs Assessment for Student School Based Behavioral Health Counseling Services Throughout the Year**

**By: Delegate Hill**

Requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and the Maryland State Department of Education to conduct a needs assessment for student school-based behavioral health counseling services throughout the school year; and requiring the assessment to contain specified matters.

*Update: In the House - Passed Enrolled*

**HB1310 - Education - Ethical Special Education Advocate Certificate Program**  
**By: Delegate Ebersole**

Requiring the State Department of Education to establish the Ethical Special Education Advocate Certificate Program on or before July 1, 2018; specifying the purpose of the Program; specifying qualifications and application procedures for a certificate; requiring the Department to issue a certificate to any applicant who meets specified requirements; authorizing an applicant to petition for judicial review of a decision of the Department that relates to issuing or renewing a certificate; etc.

*Update: In the House - Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m.*

**HB1057 - Family Law - Domestic Violence - Permanent Final Protective Orders**

**By: Delegate Atterbeary**

Adding the crime of kidnapping to the list of crimes, the commission of which subjects an individual to the issuance of a permanent final protective order against the individual under specified circumstances; and expanding the circumstances under which a court is required to issue a specified permanent final protective order.

*Update: In the House - Hearing 3/02 at 1:00 p.m.*

**HB1424 / SB0727 - Criminal Procedure - Firearms - Transfer**

**By: Delegate Atterbeary**

Requiring a court to inform a person convicted of a specified disqualifying crime that the

powered motor vehicle to emit clearly visible smoke, soot, or other exhaust emissions onto another person or motor vehicle; and providing for the application of the Act.

*Update: In the House - Returned Passed*

**HB0051 - Vehicle Laws - Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Device - Definition**

**By: Delegate Lam**

Altering the definition of "electric personal assistive mobility device" to require that the device have a specified steering mechanism and a specified platform on which the rider stands.

*Update: In the House - Passed 133-0; In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Judicial Proceedings*

**HB1113 / SB0988 - Health Occupations - Maryland Community Health Worker Act**

**By: Delegate Lam**

Establishing the State Board of Community Health Workers; specifying the purpose and composition of the Board; specifying the terms of a Board member; requiring the Governor to appoint a new member, within a specified time period, if a vacancy on the Board occurs; authorizing the Governor to remove a member of the Board under specified circumstances; requiring the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to serve as the chair of the Board; requiring the Board to elect specified officers from among its members; etc.

*Update: In the Senate - Recommended to Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs (Senator Conway);*

*In the House - Rereferred to Health and Government Operations*

**HB0827 - Public Safety - Secretary of State Police - Temporary Firearms Training Waiver**

**By: Delegate Kittleman**

Authorizing the Secretary of State Police, on making a specified determination concerning an applicant for a specified handgun permit, to temporarily waive a requirement to complete a specified firearms training course; and requiring an applicant issued a specified permit to complete a firearms training course within 60 days after the issuance of the permit.

*Update: In the House - Hearing 3/14 at 1:00 p.m.*

**HB0955 - Family Law - Age of Majority - Jurisdiction of Court**

**By: Delegate Hill**

Providing that an equity court shall retain jurisdiction for the purpose of awarding child support, in accordance with the child support guidelines, for a child who has attained the age of 18 years and who is enrolled in secondary school; providing that an equity court shall retain jurisdiction for the purpose of awarding child support for a child who has attained the age of 18 years and who is



person is prohibited from possessing a firearm under specified provisions of law; requiring the court to advise the person that specified proof must be provided to the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services that specified firearms owned by the person or in the person's possession have been transferred from the person's possession; etc.

*Update: In the House - Hearing 3/14 at 1:00 p.m.; In the House - Rereferred to Judiciary*

**[HB0677](#) - Howard County - Noise Control - Outdoor Concert Venues Ho. Co. 18-17**

**By: Chair, Howard County Delegation**

FOR the purpose of clarifying a certain limitation concerning the electronic amplification of sound at an outdoor concert venue with a certain capacity in Howard County; specifying the point from which certain measurements should be taken concerning the electronic amplification of sound at the venue; specifying that certain limitations concerning the electronic amplification of sound at the venue apply even if a satellite stage is used for an event at the venue; and generally relating to noise control at a certain outdoor concert venue in Howard County.

*Update: Delegation passed with amendments; Approved by the Governor - Chapter 307*

**[SB0734](#) / [HB1209](#) - Sexual Assault Victims Resources Act of 2017**

**By: Senator Kasemeyer**

Expanding the services to be provided by specified sexual assault crisis programs; specifying criteria for receiving specified grant funding; requiring the Governor to include \$3,000,000 each fiscal year in the State budget; providing for the allocation of specified grant money; stating specified findings of the General Assembly; establishing the Maryland Sexual Assault Evidence Kit Policy and Funding Committee; requiring Attorney General to adopt specified regulations in consultation with the Committee; etc.

*Update: In the Senate - Returned Passed; In House- Rereferred to Budget and Taxation and Judicial Proceedings*

**[SB0665](#) / [HB0913](#) - Attorney General - Powers - Maryland Defense Act of 2017**

**By: Senator Kasemeyer**

Authorizing the Attorney General to take specified actions regarding civil and criminal suits and actions that are based on the federal government's action or inaction that threatens the public interest and welfare of the residents of the State; requiring the Attorney General, to provide the Governor with specified notice and an opportunity to review and comment on specified suits and actions; requiring the Governor to provide

enrolled in an institution of postsecondary education; etc.

*Update: In the House - Unfavorable Report by Judiciary*

**[HB0966](#) - Legislative and Congressional Districting**

**By: Delegate Hill**

Creating the General Assembly Legislative Redistricting and Apportionment Commission; requiring the Commission to divide the State to create specified General Assembly districts; providing for the membership, qualifications, and duties of the Commission; specifying requirements for the adoption of redistricting plans; establishing the Commission to Study Congressional Districting; requiring the Commission to report its findings and recommendations on or before December 31, 2017; etc.

*Update: In the House - Hearing 3/03 at 1:00 p.m.*

**[HB1044](#) / [SB0992](#) - Oncologists - Dispensing and Insurance Coverage of Orally Administered Cancer Chemotherapy**

**By: Delegate Hill**

Exempting a specified physician from the prohibition on dispensing specified prescriptions when the physician has a substantial financial interest in a pharmacy under specified circumstances; authorizing a licensed physician to personally prepare and dispense a prescription written by a specified physician in the same group practice; exempting specified associations that include an oncologist from the prohibition on associating as a partner, a co-owner, or an employee of a specified pharmacy; etc.

*Update: In the House - Unfavorable Report by Health and Government Operations; Withdrawn; In the Senate - Hearing 3/09 at 1:00 p.m.*

**[HB1033](#) - Income Tax - Subtraction Modification - Discharged Student Loan Debt**

**By: Delegate Flanagan**

Allowing a subtraction modification under the Maryland income tax for specified income of specified individuals resulting from the discharge of student loan debt; providing that the amount of the subtraction modification may not exceed \$50,000 for an individual or \$100,000 for a married couple filing jointly; requiring an individual to submit specified documentation to qualify for the subtraction modification; prohibiting an individual from claiming the subtraction modification under specified circumstances; etc.

*Update: In the House - Hearing 3/08 at 1:00 p.m.*

**[HB1388](#) - Sexual Crimes - Video Games - Prohibited Conduct and Warnings to Game Developers**



\$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2019 and thereafter to carry out the specified provisions and to employ five attorneys; etc.

*Update: In the House -Hearing 3/08 at 1:00 p.m.; Enacted under Article II, Section 17(b) of the Maryland Constitution - Chapter 26*

**HB0898 - Election Law - Campaign Finance - Coordinated Expenditures**  
**By: Delegate Ebersole**

Prohibiting a person from making a coordinated expenditure in excess of specified limits or making a donation to a person for the purpose of furthering a coordinated expenditure in excess of specified limits; prohibiting a candidate or political party from being the beneficiary of a coordinated expenditure in excess of specified limits; providing that a person may not be considered to have made a coordinated expenditure solely on specified grounds; etc.

*Update: In the House - Returned Passed*

**By: Delegate Flanagan**

Prohibiting a person who has been convicted of a specified sexual crime involving a child from using a specified type of game; establishing penalties for a violation of the Act; requiring the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services to post a warning on its Web site urging computer program developers to avoid designing computer programs that may place children at risk of being in proximity to registrants; etc.

*Update: In the House - Unfavorable Report by Judiciary*

**HB1520 / SB1056 - Vehicle Laws - Personal Motor Vehicle Rentals**  
**By: Delegate Flanagan**

Establishing provisions of law governing the rental of personal motor vehicles to other persons in a specified manner; establishing that specified persons may rent only specified classes of personal motor vehicles to other persons; prohibiting a renter of a personal motor vehicle from using the motor vehicle for specified purposes; prohibiting a person from renting a personal motor vehicle to another person unless the motor vehicle is covered by specified security; etc.

*Update: In the House - Referred to interim study by Environment and Transportation; In the Senate - Hearing 3/07 at 1:00 p.m.*

**HB0971 / SB0872 - James W. Hubbard Inclusive Higher Education Grant Program**

**By: Delegate Ebersole**

Establishing the James W. Hubbard Inclusive Higher Education Grant Program; providing for the purpose of the Program; requiring the Program to be administered jointly by the Maryland Higher Education Commission, the Department of Disabilities, and the Developmental Disabilities Administration; providing for the duties of the Commission, the Department, and the Administration under the Program; requiring the Governor to include an appropriation of \$250,000 in the annual budget bill in fiscal years 2019, 2020, and 2021; etc.

*Update: In the House - Returned Passed; In the Senate - Returned Passed*





## **General Assembly of Maryland - HC Delegation Leadership**

I'd like to personally thank all our state legislators as they begin their work in Annapolis, representing our great state and county. A special congratulations to those undertaking new leadership roles, joining new committees and/or subcommittees as well as those who continue to serve in their current position. We thank you for lending your passion and expertise to our legislative process. Below you will find membership information.

### **Senator Guy Guzzone**

- Co-Chair, Howard County Delegation
- Majority Whip
- Budget and Taxation Committee
  - Chair, Pensions Subcommittee
  - Health and Human Services Subcommittee
- Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR)
- Joint Audit Committee
- Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions

### **Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary**

- Co-Chair, Howard County Delegation
- Judiciary Committee
  - Chair, Family Law Subcommittee
  - Juvenile Law Subcommittee

### **Delegate Shane Pendergrass**

- Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee
- Rules and Executive Nominations
- Legislative Policy Committee
- Chair, Death with Dignity Workgroup
- Joint Oversight Committee on Maryland Health Benefit Exchange

### **Delegate Frank Turner**

- Rules and Executive Nominations
- Vice Chair, Ways and Means
  - Chair, Election Law Subcommittee
  - Chair, Vice Chairs Subcommittee

### **Senator Ed Kasemeyer**

- Chair, Budget and Taxation
- Executive Nominations
- Rules Committee
- Legislative Policy Committee
  - Management Subcommittee
- Spending Affordability Committee
- Joint Oversight Committee on Maryland Health Benefit Exchange

### **Delegate Eric Ebersole**

- Ways and Means Committee
  - Education Subcommittee
  - Finance Resources Subcommittee
- Joint Committee on Children, Youth, and Families

### **Delegate Dr. Terri Hill**

- Health and Government Operations Committee
  - Insurance Subcommittee
- Death with Dignity Workgroup

### **Delegate Dr. Clarence Lam**

- Appropriations Committee
- Oversight Committee on Pensions

### **Senator Gail Bates**

- Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
  - Comptroller Issues Subcommittee
  - Health Subcommittee
- Joint Audit Committee
- Joint Committee on Children, Youth, and Families
- Joint Committee on Protocol

### **Delegate Robert Flanagan**

- Regional Revitalization Workgroup
- Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR)

### **Delegate Trent Kittleman**

- Judiciary Committee
  - Civil Law and Procedure Subcommittee





## General Assembly Highlighted Legislation

The General Assembly adjourned on **April 10, 2017**. Full text on all legislation considered during the General Assembly's 437th session can be accessed via website by clicking [here](#).

### [HB0303](#) / [SB0854](#)

#### **Departmental Secretaries - Campaign and Working Hour Activities**

**By: Delegate Turner**

Prohibiting a secretary of a principal department of the Executive Branch of State government from soliciting, accepting, transmitting, or depositing in a campaign account contributions or donations for the benefit of a candidate or political party; prohibiting a secretary from being a candidate for a public elective office while serving as secretary; authorizing the State Board of Elections to impose a civil penalty on specified entities as a result of a violation of this Act; etc.

*Status: In the House - Approved by the Governor - Chapter 188; In the Senate - Approved by the Governor - Chapter 187*

### [HB0455](#) / [SB0790](#)

#### **Criminal Law - Animal Cruelty - Applicability**

**By: Delegate Atterbeary**

Clarifying that a person who has charge or custody of an animal and who unnecessarily fails to provide the animal with proper air, proper space, proper shelter, or proper protection from the weather is guilty of violating a specified prohibition against abuse or neglect of an animal; and clarifying that a person who intentionally mutilates, intentionally tortures, intentionally cruelly beats, or intentionally cruelly kills an animal is guilty of violating a specified prohibition against aggravated cruelty to animals.

*Status: In the House - First Reading Judicial Proceedings; In the Senate - Hearing 3/29 at 1:00 p.m.*

### [HB0484](#) / [SB0861](#)

#### **Family Law - Marriage - Age Requirements**

**By: Delegate Atterbeary**

Prohibiting, subject to a specified exception, an individual under the age of 18 from marrying; and authorizing an individual 16 or 17 years old to marry under specified circumstances.

*Status: In the House - Unfavorable Report by Judiciary; Withdrawn; In the Senate -*

### [HB0590](#) / [SB0609](#)

#### **State Board of Education - Membership - Teachers and Parents**

**By: Delegate Ebersole**

Altering the membership of the State Board of Education to add three members who are certified teachers and two who are parents of students enrolled in public schools; requiring the Governor to appoint specified parent members with the advice and consent of the Senate from a specified list submitted to the Governor by the Maryland PTA; requiring the Department to provide notice of a specified vacancy to the Maryland PTA; etc.

*Status: In the House - Hearing 2/21 at 1:00 p.m.; In the Senate - Hearing 2/22 at 1:00 p.m.*

### [HB0023](#) [SB0341](#)

#### **Vehicle Laws - School Vehicles - Definition**

**By: Delegate Lam**

Altering the definition of "school vehicle" to include specified vehicles that meet or comply with specified standards and requirements, were originally titled and used to transport children, students, and teachers in another state, comply with the regulations on transporting children enrolled in the federally funded Head Start Program, and are used only for transporting children to and from a Head Start program.

*Status: In the House - Passed Enrolled; In the Senate - Returned Passed*

### [HB0616](#) [SB0232](#)

#### **Education - Pregnant and Parenting Students - Attendance Policy**

**By: Delegate Atterbeary**

Specifying that a student's absence from school due to the student's pregnancy or parenting needs is a lawful absence; requiring each county board of education to develop a written attendance policy for pregnant and parenting students that meets specified requirements; etc.

*Status: In the House - Returned Passed; In the Senate - Passed Enrolled*

### [HB0066](#)

#### **Environment - Lead and Mercury Wheel**



[HB0516](#) / [SB0581](#)

**Workgroup to Study the Implementation of Universal Access to Prekindergarten for 4-Year-Olds**

**By: Delegate Atterbeary**

Establishing the Workgroup to Study the Implementation of Universal Access to Prekindergarten for 4-Year-Olds; providing for the composition, chair, and staffing of the Workgroup; prohibiting a member of the Workgroup from receiving specified compensation, but authorizing the reimbursement of specified expenses; requiring the Workgroup to study and make recommendations regarding specified matters and to report its findings to the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education by September 1, 2017; etc.

*Status: In House - Enacted under Article II, Section 17(b) of the Maryland Constitution - Chapter 25; In the Senate - Returned Passed*

[HB0579](#)

**Circuit Court Judges - Election, Qualifications, and Term of Office**

**By: Delegate Hill**

Proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution relating to the selection and tenure of circuit court judges; requiring an appointment of a circuit court judge to be subject to Senate confirmation; providing for a retention election following an appointment to fill a vacancy in the office of a judge of a circuit court; altering the term of office of circuit court judges from 15 years to 10 years; submitting the amendment to the qualified voters of the State for their adoption or rejection; etc.

*Status: In the House - Hearing 2/22 at 1:00 p.m. (Judiciary)*

[HB0581](#) / [SB0633](#)

**Maryland Medical Practice Act - Individuals Exempt From Licensure - Repeal of Criminal History Records Check Requirement**

**By: Delegate Hill**

Repealing the requirement that, in order to practice medicine without a license while performing specified duties, a medical student or an individual in a postgraduate medical training program approved by the State Board of Physicians must submit to a criminal history records check in accordance with a specified provision of law; etc.

*Status: In the House - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; Withdrawn*

**Weights - Prohibited**

**By: Delegate Lam**

Prohibiting specified persons from using, allowing to be used, or selling lead or mercury wheel weights after specified dates; requiring the State to ensure that no vehicle in the State fleet is equipped with an externally attached lead wheel weight that is composed of greater than 0.1% lead by weight or greater than 0.1% mercury by weight after January 1, 2019; and providing for the enforcement of the Act, including the required issuance of a warning for an initial violation.

*Status: In the House - Passed Enrolled*

[HB0216](#) [SB0269](#)

**Emergency Veterinary Care - Immunity From Liability**

**By: Delegate Lam**

Providing that prohibitions relating to the practice of veterinary medicine do not apply to emergency veterinary care for which a person may not be held civilly liable; providing immunity from civil liability for specified people providing emergency veterinary aid, care, or assistance to an animal where the owner or custodian is not available to grant permission under specified circumstances; etc.

*Status: In the House - Passed Enrolled;*

*In the Senate - Returned Passed*

[SB0257](#) [HB0267](#)

**Program Open Space - Authorized Transfer to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Financing Fund Increase**

**By: Senator Kasemeyer**

Increasing from \$3,000,000 to \$6,000,000 the maximum amount that may be transferred, in the State budget or through a specified budget amendment process, to the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Financing Fund from funds that are distributed to Program Open Space.

*Status: In the Senate - Returned Passed;*

*In the House - Returned Passed*

[SB0476](#) [HB0580](#)

**Behavioral Health Community Providers - Keep the Door Open Act**

**By: Senator Guzzone**

Legislation to support mental health and substance use disorders providers is top legislative priority for nonprofit coalition.

*Status: In the Senate - Hearing 2/28 at 1:00 p.m.*



## Important Dates - Post Session

- April 30th - Final Date for presentment of bills to Governor
- May 30th - Governor to sign/veto bills by this date
- June 1st - Other than emergency bills and as otherwise provided, earliest date for bills to take effect
- July 1st - Budgetary, tax, and revenue bill to take effect
- October 1st - Usual effect date for bills



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I hope you have found this information insightful as both the County Council and Delegation continue advocating on behalf of Howard County. Consider lending your voice to our legislative process and please feel free to share this information with your friends, family, and neighbors to help me in my goal to create an informed citizenry.

All the best,

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